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THE MEDIUM
VOLUME 26 ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 15, 1999

The Star goes to school

The Toronto Star tries to increase readership

BY TRACY MONIZ

The Toronto Star is currently negotiating with Ontario universities and colleges to give away free copies of the daily on campus, a move that may threaten the future of student newspapers and publications.

York University was first to implement The Toronto Star's Campus Readership Programme. Currently, 5000 copies of The Star are available to York students daily, approximately one issue for every five students.

As part of its initiative, The Star provides campuses with community newspaper racks, 40 per cent of the spaces belongs to The Star, and the remaining space is divided among the other student publications on campus. The Star has twenty-six of these racks at York.

The Campus Readership Programme is modeled after a similar project at Pennsylvania State University. In The Toronto Star's October address to the Canadian University Press (CUP), they defended the Programme, saying that "student readership (at Pennsylvania U) of all newspapers increased from 15 per cent to 73 per cent," demonstrating a boost in general readership that benefits all newspapers, including the campus press.

According to Philippe Devos, editor-in-chief of Ryerson's The Eye Opener, there are key differences between the Pennsylvania State project and the one currently underway in Ontario.

"The Pennsylvania State project was university-initiated and controlled. This was initiated by The Star; therefore, they're looking out for the best interests of The Star," said Devos.

Many student-run publications have voiced concerns that free daily papers will eliminate the importance of student media since students will more likely opt to read a major publication like The Toronto Star over the campus newspaper.

"We have to protect the student press as part of an active, healthy environment," said Devos. Ryerson University was also considering a deal with The Star, but negotiations have been stalled due to an internal policy that prevents external publications, newspapers, and other media communications from being distributed on campus without the sponsorship of the full-or part-time student governments, or the director of student services. Administration cannot push an agreement through alone, and, presently, Ryerson's student governments are opposed to the deal.

> "We have to protect the student press as part of an active, healthy environment."
> Philippe Devos

Seneca College, however, is in the closing stages of an agreement with The Toronto Star.

As for U of T, negotiations have not yet concluded. "We're still considering the possibility," said Jane Sterling, manager of news services in U of T's public affairs department.

SAC is opposed to the move.

"I don't like it," said Anwar Ahmed, SAC Erindale chair. "I don't like it at all." Ahmed said that he is "totally opposed" to The Toronto Star providing free newspapers to campuses. "It inevitably leads to the demise of campus papers, and eliminates a part of campus life," he added.

> "It inevitably leads to the demise of campus papers, and eliminates a part of campus life."
> – Anwar Ahmed

In a letter to Professor Michael Finlayson, vice president of administration and human resources, SAC vice-president Paul Kutasi expressed concern that decisions were being made "without consultation with students and without fully realizing the consequences to students."

Falling continued on page 4

Hart House Memorial Tower

FAIR MARKETING?

On the outside

This is the second in a series that investigates how UTM markets itself to first-year students. This week, we examine how students enrolling in UTM are sold a U of T experience but don't always get a U of T experience.

BY MARK BUDGELL

Erindale College has always been farther from the St. George campus than the short 33 kilometres touted in U of T recruitment brochures. Since its inception, Erindalians have fought for recognition by the larger U of T, and students have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on services only available on the St. George campus. While Erindale succeeds in providing students with a warm sense of community, it struggles, and in many instances fails, to provide students with a real U of T experience.

"Benign neglect"

Bob McNutt, principal of UTM, said that "the [partnership] doesn't work as well as it should." He said the relationship between Erindale and St. George is much like the relationship between the United States and Canada: "Americans don't know a hell of a lot about Canadians. Sometimes I feel like I need to find a bell, ring it, and say, 'Here I

Erindale continued on page 3

Strike threatens exams

BY MARK BUDGELL

Teaching assistants may go on strike before the end of the term, disrupting courses and evaluations for hundreds of Erindale students.

Recently, 82 per cent of TAs and sole-responsibility instructors voted in favour of striking if their demands for tuition relief, increased dental and vision benefits, wage parity with York University TAs, and more job security were not met by U of T administration.

> "The union is asking for a quite a lot of money and they are asking for things that are hard for the university to give. What they want would cost $12 million."
> – Michael Finlayson

The two sides are negotiating, but U of T considers the demands excessive. According to U of T vice-president Michael Finlayson, the union is asking for more than the university can give.

"The union is asking for a quite a lot of money and they are asking for things that are hard for the university to give. What they want would cost $12-million," said Finlayson.

One concerned CUPE union member, who did not wish to be identified, said that the union is using students as bargaining leverage and that the process is unfair for students.

"I'm sure a lot of undergraduate students don't even realize that this bargaining is going on. Even if they realize it, they probably are not aware of the consequences of the strike. I think that part is unfair. Students have no say, they don't get a vote," he said.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK
"...I think something had to be done to set an example."
– Andy Baghaei page 2

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CUPE member speaks out

Continued from front

"The money brought in by undergraduate students runs the university and I feel that they are left out of the loop a lot of the time," said the concerned CUPE member.

> "The money brought in by undergraduate students runs the university and I feel that they are left out of the loop a lot of the time."
> – a concerned CUPE member

At UTM there are approximately 400 members of CUPE 3902. If CUPE leads these members to a strike in December, most students will find that it will take longer to have tests and assignments marked. Also, since several of CUPE's UTM members are sole-responsibility instructors who teach classes, some students taking half-credit courses will find their classes terminated before they have the opportunity to finish course material and end of term essays, or write final exams. Students in these classes will be awarded marks based solely on their early performance. This could hurt those who performed poorly during the first half of the semester.

According to the unnamed CUPE member, TAs have had little input into the negotiations.

"The union definitely takes over in cases like this. The members had one opportunity to vote to call a strike vote and then they got their strike vote and that's the only say that we have in this. The union takes over."

The concerned CUPE member said that both the union and administration should give more.

"I don't think the TAs are being unfair. The union is representing the TAs and doing its best job to get what it thinks is the best deal possible. The administration is being quite stubborn. They don't want to give up any more money. I think that both parties could be giving up a little bit more."

> "I think that both parties could be giving a little more."
> – a concerned CUPE member

The CUPE member said that students who feel that the strike will hurt their grades should petition for a late withdrawal.

Union spokesperson Corey Coates said that the university won't cooperate with the union.

"So far all efforts to moderate proposal still haven't prompted administration to talk with us," said Coates.

Spigel Hall goes cajun

By Christopher Allsop

Spigel Hall was Erindale's hot spot last week when a deep fryer caught fire.

Reports of billowing, black smoke in the hallways forced the evacuation of the students and staff from the South Building.

The fire started in the deep fryer in the kitchen of Spigel Hall at 9:49 a.m. Fortunately, it remained contained in the kitchen area.

The fire caused around $2500 in damage to the deep fryer, and damage to food was estimated at around $700, according to District Chief McClennan of the Fire and Emergency Services of Mississauga. Aramark, which is responsible for food services at Erindale, keeps much of its food in the kitchen area. Students found that bread was scarce Monday and Tuesday because so much of it was damaged in the fire.

photo/Adam Giles

Firefighters check out what's left of the Spigel Hall kitchen. A deep fryer caught on fire last week and wreaked havoc on the kitchen. Burn, baby, burn!

Days after the fire, numerous stations in the marketplace were marked off with signs stating its closure due to "unforeseen circumstances."

Signs were posted around the South Building stairwells and on the doors to Spigel Hall for a few days after the fire telling students that Spigel Hall would be closed until further notice. Students were told to go to Mr. Sub, Tim Hortons, the Blink Duck Pub or Panzerotto Pizza for food.

Spigel Hall opened again for business on Wednesday morning after the cleanup.

ECSU: bad, bad Baghaei

By Mark Budgell

ECSU council placed vice-president of finance Andy Baghaei on probation, cut his pay, and asked him to write an apology to students for not following the ECSU constitution when he wrote ECSU's winter budget.

At an ECSU council meeting last week, directors voted in favour of reprimanding Baghaei. They passed a motion to withhold two weeks of Baghaei's pay, to make him write a letter of apology to students, and to place him on probation for the rest of the year for his infraction. The motion also indicated that any violation of his probation will result in an immediate impeachment vote by the council.

> "Personally, I don't think I did anything wrong, but I think something had to be done to set an example."
> – Andy Baghaei

The motion was a response to Baghaei's failure to follow the ECSU constitution. Two weeks ago, at ECSU's first general meeting of the year, students and council members realized that the budget Baghaei presented was unconstitutional. He directly violated ECSU's constitution by failing to present a copy of the budget to the board by the October 15 deadline, by planning a full-year budget instead of a winter budget, and by failing to reflect the budgets submitted by other ECSU directors. The budget also did not include revenue from events like Mystery pub and the Big Star pub

Andy Baghaei

Though Baghaei agreed to co-operate with the council, he still contends that his budget was misunderstood.

"Personally, I don't think I did anything wrong, but I think something had to be done to set an example."

"I'm not upset with it," said Baghaei.

Baghaei agreed to the council's terms because he is "a person in favour of unity."

He said that he agreed to the punishment because he may have disappointed people. "I felt I might have let some people down by getting off-track," said Baghaei.

"I'm going to do my best to follow the constitution," said Baghaei.

Baghaei presented a revised budget last week. The board voted to table it again because it was incomplete.

Playboy on campus

By Mark Budgell

Hard drives on campus got a lot harder last week when users of Erindale's "credit" email system received Playboy's electronic news letter.

Last week, on November 10, campus police discovered that someone had subscribed the Erindale mailing list erincomm@credit.erin.utoronto.ca to Playboy. As a result, police services, faculty, and several UTM organizations received Playboy.com's monthly newsletter.

Campus police and staff from computing services investigated the incident. They discovered that the subscription was made late at night on November 6, but could not determine where the subscription came from. UTM's computers were not damaged by the subscription.

According to Len Paris, manager of UTM police services, damaging, or intending to damage campus computers by subscribing them to certain Web sites is a criminal offense.

"If you do it in such a way as to bring down the system, and that was your intent, than it is a criminal offense," said Paris.

Paris said that it is a violation of an agreement that students consent to when they use their Erindale accounts.

"Everyone agrees [when they get their Erindale computer account], whether they realize it or not, not to do this sort of thing."

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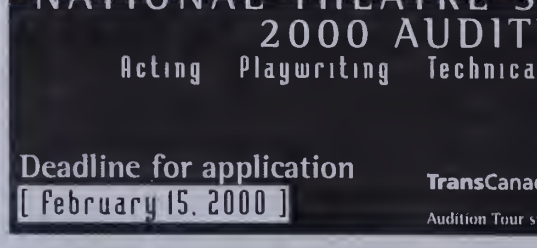
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Erindale distant cousin to U of T

Continued from front

am from Mississauga.'"

Two years ago, Principal McNutt added 'University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM)' to Erindale College's name. He said he did it to "let the world know that we are a part of U of T." He said that he was surprised at how few people in the community realized that our college was a U of T campus.

> "I think a lot of what goes downtown should be opt-outable. If I know that I'm not going to use Hart House, I should be able to opt-out."
> – Laurie Schirripa

Doug Leeies, UTM's recruiting officer, said that the relationship between the two campuses suffer from a case of "benign neglect." Administrators on the St. George campus aren't aware of what happens at Erindale, but neither are students on St. George. Leeies said that the Varsity's failure to cover the grand opening of UTM's Student Centre shows St. George's benign neglect.

Leeies points out that in some ways U of T's neglect of UTM is useful. "Being neglected means that we can do a lot of things here that they would find difficult downtown," like UTM's forensic programme and admissions structure, said Leeies.

Fight for fees

UTM's course calendars and pamphlets emphasize the Erindale-U of T connection. This year's course calendar tells students that they will have "access to all the resources of one of North America's largest and most prestigious institutions." It praises U of T as Canada's best research facility and markets its library facility as "among the best in Canada."

UTM's academic connection to St. George seems obvious, but do UTM students benefit from the connection as much as they should?

ECSU president Laurie Schirripa said that a major problem is that students "pay for services they don't have easy access to.

"I think a lot of what goes downtown should be opt-outable. If I know that I'm not going to use Hart House, I should be able to opt-out."

Currently, most students don't benefit from the many famous speakers that visit St. George, or the festivals, clubs, and resources at Hart House.

Jessica Franzen, a fourth-year student and campus resident, said, "I don't think we're the same school. I came here with the presumption that this was U of T and that it was all the same, but it's not."

> "I think it's important that, if we're a part of U of T, that we be an integral part. If the student body doesn't feel they're a part of U of T, then there is a problem."
> – Principal McNutt

Franzen said that the connection is only useful because the degree she receives for graduating has the U of T logo.

"I'd say that the most disconnection [from U of T] occurs at the undergraduate level," said McNutt. "We're not trying to fool people. We're doing it so that people can come to U of T and get to live on a small campus.

"I think it's important that, if we're a part of U of T, that we be an integral part. If the student body doesn't feel they're a part of U of T, then there is a problem," said McNutt.

"Students should not be paying anymore to St. George than what is reflected by usage and benefits," he said.

Like administration, students and student organizations have been "ringing bells" for several years to have more of their incidental fees returned to Mississauga. The Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students union (EPUS) has been locked in a dispute with the downtown part-time union, the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS). Erindale part-time students pay $20 to APUS, and EPUS receives $4 of the $20 to fund its services. EPUS wants a greater share of the $20 fee because they doubt that Erindale students benefit much from the services that APUS provides downtown. APUS, though, has stalled negotiations.

A similar situation exists between the athletics facilities at the two campuses.

A portion of the tuition that Erindale students pay each year goes to the opulent athletics facilities on the St. George campus. Meanwhile, UTM's athletics department recently had to impose a $50 user fee to help pay the upkeep of its outdated weight-room and elementary size gymnasium.

Scholarships still available

BY AMY RAYAN

UTM students aren't claiming scholarships that are available to them through UTM's awards office.

Few students are applying for scholarships like The Erindale College Student Endowment Award, the Paul Fox Award, and the Rotary Club of Mississauga West "Service about Self" award.

Preena Chauhan, vice-president of ECSU, said that she is not sure why so few students apply for the Student Endowment Award.

"The Student Endowment Award does not require a lot. All that is needed is a sessional GPA of about 3.0, community service outside of UTM, and student involvement within UTM campus. It doesn't hurt to apply, and you will never know what you could achieve if you do not apply," said Chauhan.

Hugh Clark, UTM awards officer, said "students are so busy they don't realize the kinds of scholarship that are offered. We need to find a way to get more applicants."

According to Chauhan, the purpose of ECSU is not only to represent students in financial matters, but also to give advice and offer help to any student in a crisis. Advertisements about the scholarships are always posted on a board outside the Registrar's Office. The UTM Web site also includes information about available scholarships.

"I was expecting at least 20 people to apply for the scholarship [the Endowment Award] last year," said Chauhan, "but less than 10 applied. We advertised and re-advertised it, and it was kind of odd if somebody's achieved what we're looking for. It is disappointing. People don't think that they are eligible, but they would be surprised at how easy it is to qualify."

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Falling Star hurts university student newspapers

Continued from front

"It's sad to see student organizations getting the shrug. We have limited information available to us, and also have limits as a student organization. There's not much we can do if they [administrators] don't want to hear," said Ahmed.

According to Kelly Pedro, news editor of York University's Excalibur, no one at the paper was consulted during any of York's talks with The Toronto Star. "There was no choice. It's a do or die situation," she said. Furthermore, since the onset of the Programme, the Excalibur has noticed an "incredible drop" in the paper's circulation.

Kutasi also suggested included in his letter that the potential for major advertisers to abandon the smaller campus newspapers for larger daily newspapers where readership is guaranteed. Various others echoed his concern.

> "It's sad to see student organizations getting the shrug. We have limited information available to us, and also have limits as a student organizations."
> – Anwar Ahmed

According to Mike Brown, a sales representative for Campus Network, a company that handles deals with national advertising for university and college papers, campus papers rely heavily on national advertising in order to survive. Brown feels that The Toronto Star, or any other daily publication with effective distribution and strong student readership and response could create a definite problem.

"Advertisers are not going to pay for redundancy, especially if they feel The Star can be all things to all people." he said.

"Why would large companies advertise in a specialized campus paper when they can reach a wider audience, including the student audience, by advertising in The Toronto Star?" asked Brown.

Tariq Hassan-Gordon, President of CUP, shares Brown's concern. "Campus papers are not in a position to take a hit. If they lose their major advertisers, it threatens their survival," he said. CUP issued a media advisory in September that labeled The Toronto Star's strategy "a serious threat to the current health and long term survival of student newspapers."

> "We never intended to go against student publications or advertising."
> – Loreen Lalonde

In response, Loreen Lalonde, partnership and consultant to the circulation department of The Toronto Star, claims that The Star will not take on any new initiatives, such as special campus sections, that will affect student paper readership or advertising.

"We never intended to go against student publications or advertising," said Lalonde. "It doesn't make sense. The Toronto Star does not target a student market," she said.

> "Advertisers are not going to pay for redundancy, especially if they feel The Star can be all things to all people."
> – Mike Brown

Lalonde emphasized that advertisements in The Star are geared towards an older, financially stable target audience, while ads by the same national advertiser in a student publication are marketed toward students – a completely different group with different needs.

Brown also faults university administration. "It's a money-grabbing mentality of administration that comes at a cost to the other campus media papers. They're making quick deals and not making knowledgeable business-media decisions," he said

Many of those opposed to the programme have accused The Star of trying to boost their circulation. In its media advisory, CUP accused The Star of "dumping free papers into the student market to prop up their falling circulation." Hassan-Gordon believes that The Star's new programme is not intended to benefit students. "They have an economic agenda," he said.

"It will help our circulation. We never intended to hide that," said Lalonde. "The Toronto Star is the most dominant paper in the city. We don't need to prop up our circulation," she said. According to Lalonde, The Star is trying to develop a readership market. "It's our future market," she said. "Only 15 per cent of students habitually read the paper. As an industry, this is concerning," said Lalonde. One of the programme's initiatives is to get students into the habit of reading the newspaper. This, in turn, may translate into future subscriptions following graduation."

Where does it go from here? According to Liane McLarty, general manager of Ryerson's The Eye Opener, a working group is being developed as a joint effort with CUP to develop policies and strategies to defend university newspapers. CUP President Hassan-Gordon also said that a legal defense fund is being established to look into possible legal remedies. Gordon, however, could not comment as to what these remedies may be.

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Foxy Paul Fox reminisces

By Sumbal Malik

What Paul Fox, former principal of Erindale College, remembers most about the campus are the parking and the pub.

During a dinner in the faculty lounge last Wednesday, Fox, who was Principal from 1976-1986, spoke to about 40 professors and administrators about his experiences at UTM. He said that his years at Erindale were "the happiest days of my life."

Of course, his work at Erindale was not without its challenges.

Originally called "Random Thoughts of an Older Professor," the talk was jokingly re-named by him as "What I Remember Before I Lost My Memory." Fox described how "the biggest problems were not the students or professors but two other p's – parking and the Pub

Fox explained that "the pub was run independently by the students in those days, and primarily for fun and profit. There was a continual succession of complaints, incidents and rumours of wild parties, drunkenness, and disregard for closing time. In fact, the charges had become so serious before I arrived, that the Liquor Board had suspended the pub's license. The university administrator downtown, in whose name the license was held, was threatened with criminal conviction."

Fox further recounted how "the pub was an endless misery in which the vice principal and I lived in fear of the day an anguished parent or grieving relative would appear at our door and demand to know why their son, daughter, or loved one had been injured or killed after a wild time in the pub. One day Robin said to me sadly, 'Paul, when I die, they will find inscribed on my heart the word pub.'"

The former principal provided lively and engaging reflections on his experiences including stories about U of T students and faculty, and respected members of the community such as Mayor McCallion and former Licutenant Governor John Aird. Dinner was provided by Spigel Hall.

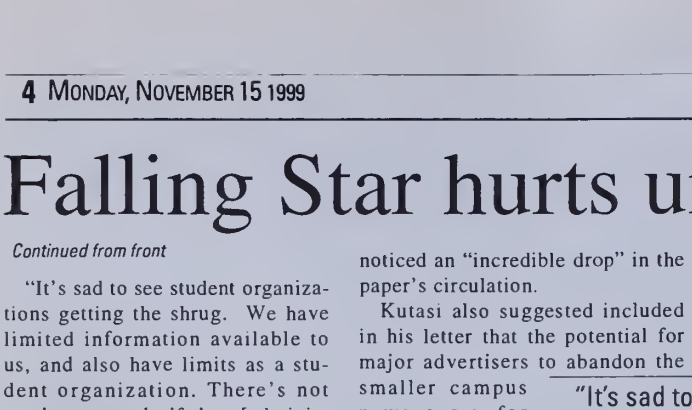
Fox enjoyed a fruitful career as professor in the department of political science, before he advanced to his position as principal. He has since held a position as senior research associate at Victoria College.

"Fourty-one years in the academic profession! It was a great life. As Murray Ross once said to me, 'being a professor is the best job in the world.' And he was right. Where else do you get paid for improving your mind? Where else can you spend your life among bright young people and interesting colleagues?"

At the close of the evening, Fox enthusiastically declared, "Erindale-or UTM- is

A great place and I thank you all for the fun and friendships I have had here."

Former Principal of Erindale College, Paul Fox. Foxy Paul reminisced about his time at Erindale at a dinner last week.
If only you knew us now!



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EDITORIAL

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Exiled

UTM markets the campus as an integral part of the University of Toronto, but in reality Erindale is the U of T's slow half-sister.

The folks downtown really don't give a damn about what happens out here. They disregard our campus, our decisions, and our achievements. Doug Leeies is right, why didn't the Varsity report on the Student Centre opening?

We pay U of T fees for services, but we never see the money return to our campus.

UTM students pay incidental fees for the athletics facilities downtown. Meanwhile, UTM students have to pay user fees to use our own stunted athletics facilities. If you ask the folks downtown why our fees return to UTM, they'll say something ridiculous, like, "hey, you can use the St. George facilities. Just come down here!" That rarely happens. Who wants to spend two hours on the bus just so they can have a quick workout or play Varsity sports?

We're screwed with interfaculty sports, too. The UTM rugby team isn't allowed to count its home games in the standings because the downtowners don't want to come out here to play. If our rugby team doesn't want to make the long trip downtown, however, they're penalized.

Even the downtown student unions screw us. APUS, the U of T-wide part-time student union, bleeds UTM part-time students for everything it can. UTM part-timers pay fees to APUS but only see a tiny percentage of their fees ever make it back to UTM. APUS executives say the same old thing, "come on downtown!" Meanwhile, our part-time union struggles to offer students tea and cheap photocopies.

Are we really part of the U of T, as the marketing brochures suggest? No, we're not, though our place in the university is "unique." Students come here thinking that they are part of the U of T, but when they get here they realize that if they really the U of T experience, they have to change colleges.

Something needs to change. Either the people downtown include us in the U of T pie, or they change the marketing brochures to portray what UTM really means to the U of T: money.

Don't strike!

A teaching assistant strike is a serious matter. Both sides need to find a compromise before the quality of undergraduate studies is affected.

UTM employs nearly 400 TAs and sole-responsibility instructors. Even though many students aren't enrolled in classes taught by TAs, everybody will lose if the union follows through with their threats to strike. The strikers, the picket lines, the anger, and the uncomfortable atmosphere will effect everybody's work and studies.

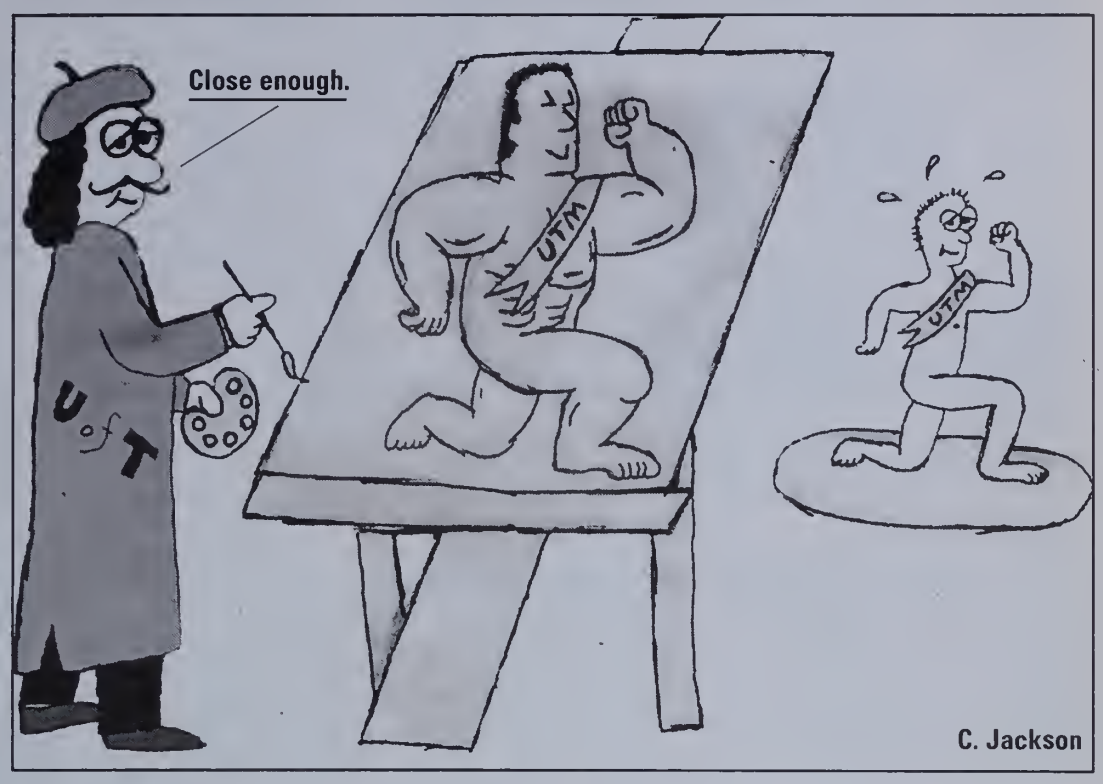
Neither side seems concerned with undergraduates. The TAs are using undergraduates as a bargaining tool by threatening to strike on the eve of exams. The university isn't flinching. They're letting the TAs walk even though the quality of education is sure to drop during the strike.

The university needs to alleviate students' concerns if the TAs do strike. They need to tell students enrolled in courses with TAs what is going to happen to their marks. Students are stressed enough about studying, they don't need the stress of uncertainty brought on by the employment dispute.

If the U of T administration and the U of T TAs want to live up to the university slogan of "excellence in undergraduate education," both sides need to put aside their squabbles and provide an excellent undergraduate education, not an intimidating undergraduate education.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate is to inform students of local and national concerns, and give Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. Retail and community advertising provided exclusively by The Mississauga News. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Jen Matotek courtesy of Anne Landers. The Medium plays Les Paul air guitars and Sabian air cymbals exclusively.

Jen drank Andy's mickey. Lots of responses this issue. Great! We always thought that this campus didn't have any opinions. Who knew? Good cartoon, Chris. Richard Clarke: thank us for editing your letter. If we didn't, you'd look like a total moron. Speaking of morons, I work with morons. My co-workers and *somebody* else made a girl cry on the weekend, even though they knew that she was ready to "burst." Sorry about that lady, these guys are really dumb. They didn't mean it. They are really dumb - they started a water fight near the computers. Adam wants to play hockey with *somebody*, and if he's lucky, maybe score a hat trick. It'll never happen Adam. Speaking of hockey, we think that Richie's "playing goal," but we haven't been able to prove it. Happy belated birthday, Richie. If you want to see a good movie, check out "Being John Malkovich." Good funny shit. I've been invited to ECSU's open forum. Do I need to buy a bullet proof vest?



LETTERS

McNutt talks

To the Editorial Board, The Medium

I am responding to your open letter to me that appeared in the November 8 issue of The Medium concerning donor recognition signs at the Student Centre. My staff and I are discussing this issue with the president of ECSU, and we will be doing the same with the president of PTS@UTM. I am confident we will come up with a plan that will satisfy the concerns of all.

Sincerely,
Bob McNutt, Principal

Residence recognition

Dear Editor,

Residence life is a special part of this campus. This year, around 1000 people are staying at UTM twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

As would be expected with such a large number of students, there are some who go out of their way to have the best experience possible.

Due to these students, residence life is much more enjoyable and bearable for the rest, who may not be having such a great time.

This year marks the beginning of a programme that specifically sets out to appreciate the students who are making a difference. This is the Residence Recognition Programme, and although it's only two weeks old, the response from students is strong.

But what exactly is this programme? Basically, it is a chance to recognize people who made residence life better for you.

With that in mind I would like to congratulate all those who, in the past two weeks, have been singled out by their peers. These students include: Brian Sison, Kate Blank, Ryan Smith, Bjorn Nielson, Julie Labbe, Laurissa Sova, John Shaunessey, and Eric Rose to name a few.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this programme a success in its first weeks.

Jeff Mason

DJ dishes Medium

Re: "Radio Erindale gives bad vibes," November 8, 1999

Dear editor,

For a so-called objective newspaper this week's Medium wasn't. Your treatment of Vibe has been appalling this year. If the Medium aspires to be a successful newspaper, it should attempt to help this struggling radio station.

Who of you can honestly claim responsibility for The Medium's success today? Your success was handed down to you from past generations of Erindale students. Vibe, however, has had to fight an uphill battle for years, trying to fix the mistakes of the past. Judging from your last edition, you don't appear to be carrying that torch very well. Vibe on the other hand, has been making substantial progress in the last couple of months in improving their services.

I was particularly disgusted with The Medium's decision to publish an article by Richie Mehta entitled "Radio Erindale gives bad vibes." In this article the obviously dimwitted Mehta describes his recent listening experience. Mr. Subjective based his opinions on the entire station on only one broadcast. Anyone who has taken an introductory statistics course can tell you that you can't base an inference on a population if you don't have a representative sample.

I took such great offense to this review because I myself am a DJ at Vibe. I put a great deal of effort into broadcasting my show and I don't think it's fair that Mehta judges the whole station based on one hour. "If only Radio Erindale had something good to say." What's that? I think if Mehta would had conducted a little more extensive research and had taken the time to listen for more than just one hour, he would have recognized the artistic talent in our live DJ sets.

I think it's only necessary to remind you of your role as an unbiased presenter of the news. I suggest that you do your job and let Vibe do theirs. So far, your coverage of Vibe has offered nothing but negative criticism. Isn't it about time to focus on some of the positive aspects of Vibe?

This school is supposed to function as a community, and The Medium is not being very neighbourly. In order for Vibe to succeed they need your help. You say you're only reporting the news, but judging from the lack of research that went into the past week's edition you have a great distance to go before you can classify this dribble as news.

Sincerely,

Richard Clark (DJ Phase Shift)

Want to say something to us?

Write a letter.

mail:
medium@canada.com

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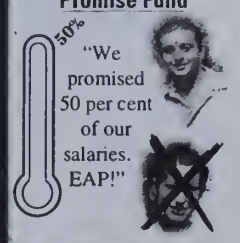
The Big Guy/~~Oliviera~~ Promise Fund



Letters Policy

We reserve the right to edit letters for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or The Medium's Board of Directors. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to The Medium presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk by noon Friday. Letters will not be printed unless accompanied by the author's phone number.

Letters

The Bible's right. God said so.

Re: "Dispelling the Biblical myths against homosexuality." November 8, 1999

Dear editor,

Last week, J.J. Deogracias expressed the view that homosexuality is not considered sinful according to Scripture. He says that Biblical passages used to support the view that homosexuality is sinful have been erroneously translated or have been taken out of historical context, thus making them prone to misinterpretation. He also said that the Bible has been compiled and edited by human beings and is therefore the imperfect production of mankind. Although Deogracias raises some valid points, his conclusions about the Bible's position on homosexuality are entirely incorrect.

One of the foundations of the Christian faith is that the Bible represents the infallible and absolute word of God – it was written, edited, and compiled under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Any attempt to say otherwise is a direct contravention of Christian beliefs.

The Bible is very adamant in its call for the sexual purity of both men and women. This includes abstention from adultery, pre-marital sex, bestiality, pederasty, lesbianism, and homosexuality. The most famous example of punishment for sexual sin is the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah found in the book of Genesis. Deogracias believes that these cities were destroyed for an infraction of Eastern hospitality customs and not for their sexual immorality. Clearly, a New Testament passage (Matthew 10: 14-15) refers to the fact that God will deal more harshly with those people who reject His word than He did with the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. These words cannot in any way be twisted to fit Deogracias' interpretation.

The Bible clearly defines what is "natural" and provides clear proof that both lesbianism and homosexuality are forbidden. Notice as well that the word "homosexuality" is never used, but rather an entire verse is given to describing the act (Romans 1: 26-32). If there is a an incorrect translation, the mistake would have to involve this entire segment of Scripture. This is highly unlikely, since the original text was written in Greek, a very commonly translated language.

According to Deogracias' article, these laws were given to prevent cultural assimilation by outsiders who practiced homosexuality in conjunction with idolatry. This is pure speculation – he has no proof that this is the reason why God gave these commands. In any case, God gave specific instructions to avoid all idolatry (two of the 10 commandments), which would exclude all homosexual rituals associated with it. However, God goes out of His way to specifically forbid homosexuality twice in Leviticus.

Evidently, this constitutes strong proof that there are Biblical commands against homosexuality. Deogracias did however make a few good points. The teachings of Jesus Christ do not in any way condone the actions of "religious fundamentalists" pursuing their own homophobic agenda of persecution. Homophobia, or violence against homosexuals, is in no way preached or supported in Scripture – the Bible clearly teaches us to "love our neighbour." All judgment and retribution is to be left in the hands of God, who is all knowing and acts with all justice.

A.L. Ramadeen

Art and Art History a disappointment

Re: "Drawing crowds," November 8, 1999

Dear editor,

Thank you Medium and Tracy Moniz for taking the most honest view of the Art & Art History programme to date.

The Art & Art History programme wasn't what I expected.

During my three years in Art & Art History, I hardly received any practical training. Drawing classes rarely required drawing at all. I once had a classmate submit his own vomit as a 'drawing.' When a classmate pressed our second-year drawing instructor for some technical lessons, she was simply told to go to college – an odd thing to hear in a room at Sheridan College. Where was the "practical foundation" that the school promised?

One of the students interviewed said that Art & Art History is "more idea driven." What's the point of having your "own creative goals," as instructor John Armstrong puts it, if you lack the competence to achieve them? On another point, Armstrong's inference that by fourth year most students have adjusted is misleading. By fourth year, disillusioned students, including myself, leave the programme.

When I walked through Sheridan, I was constantly reminded of the enormous discrepancy between the ability of the college students and the ability of the university students. My instructors always said "*they* are illustrators and *we* are fine artists who deal in the realm of ideas." Even if such an argument was valid, the fundamental ability to draw and paint was far superior in the college students. Our works, no matter how good the 'ideas' were less polished due to our lack of proper training.

At the end of my first year, I thought my work was good. That bubble was abruptly burst when I went to Sheridan's open house. At that time I became sickly aware of my lack of progress. While students in the college courses made considerable advancement in their skills, my work was no better than when I finished high school. I naively believed that course content would improve and intensify as I entered second year. I was wrong. My third year of studio was merely a means of salvaging what I could from the worst mistake of my life. I got out as quickly as possible by completing an Art & Art History major, instead of a specialist.

Because I did not receive the practical training that attracted me to Art & Art History, I had to enroll in art courses at college and at vocational schools to begin attaining the skills I needed to create the art I wanted to make. I find this grossly unfair.

The art history component was very good, however.

If the Art & Art History programme delivered the type of training the department promises, then Art & Art History could be a good art programme. Also, if UTM and Sheridan drop the practical training reference from the calendars, students could avoid the programme from the beginning, and thus avoid future disappointment.

David Namisato, UTM 9T9

Oliveira, Baghaei: resign

Re: "Baghaei bungles budget," November 8, 1999

Dear Editor,

Now that the attention has shifted to Baghaei and his budget, let me shift it back to where it should be. Baghaei isn't the bad guy he's still promising to give back some of his already depleted ECSU salary. So what if he broke the ECSU Constitution (whatever that is)? He didn't know that Oliveira was going to go back on her promise and remove the needed dollars from his budget.

Oliveira managed to grab the highest percentage of votes from the small percentage of students who vote. She made a promise to give back half of her salary upon election and wiggled out of the promise in a way that would make Clinton proud. If she is so sure that she won her seat because of her many talents and not her promise, then there should be another election. If another election is not possible, then she should have the decency to resign. Hopefully, her resignation will encourage Baghaei to do the same and ECSU can find two people that don't have to make empty promises to be elected.

Nicholas Bader

Hurray for Hampton

Re: "A university education for free," November 8, 1999

Dear Editor,

Your report last week on Ontario NDP leader Howard Hampton's discussion of free university education was well-written, innovatively displayed, and a credit to the staff of The Medium. Erindale's New Democratic Party Club, the sponsors of Hampton's visit to UTM, congratulates reporter Jennifer Matotek and those responsible for layout on a job well done. Students who would like more information about the NDP Club here at Erindale can reach us via Student Organizations on the Erindale web site, or e-mail me at edtoth@ican.net, or phone 826-5041.

Again, thank you for your excellent work on Howard Hampton.

Edna Toth

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828-5494
Office located in Room 131, Student Centre

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Relationship Roadblocks

Stop sabotaging your romances!

University is a tumultuous time for romance. Most people don't marry their high school sweethearts. They may not meet their future mate until university or their first few years in the workforce. They might not even get married until they're thirty years old, or older! Less than twenty years ago, these people would have been considered spinsters. Now the issue of marriage isn't as important as it used to be.

Why is love so much harder to find and keep these days? Perhaps students are working too much, and not taking the time to have fun and meet people. The appalling number of marriages that end divorce make many people feel cynical about the notion of true love.

Most people simply suffer from small 'hang-ups' that thwart their attempts at finding (and maintaining) a healthy romance.

Hey everyone! Look at me! I'm so mad at my boyfriend that I'm going to shower an unsuspecting crowd of people with my dandruff.

Roadblock One: Inexperience

Many people have never found romance. Maybe these people didn't have a girlfriend in high school, and continue this track record in university. They might be jaded and frightened by a friend's experiences. Perhaps their own miniscule flings resulted in rejection. Unfortunately, there's no easy solution for people who fall into this category.

It is possible that people who can't find someone, or can't keep a girlfriend or boyfriend for more than a week may have some maturity issues. Insecurity is usually the biggest factor in preventing a person from taking the necessary first steps in a relationship, from the initial stage of flirtation to a period of courtship. The only way to beat insecurity is to wait until a person breaks the insecurity, and lets things move at a comfortable pace comes along. However, the inexperienced person who has had multiple rejections or a success rate of zero, should sit back and wait, because if a relationship is meant to be, it will simply happen, regardless of any misguided efforts. (Following this advice will prevent you from looking like an idiot, chasing people who are inappropriate for you.) Remember that it can be cool to be a virgin, and there are plenty of fish in the sea who believe it's okay not to engage in ass-nipping by the third date.

So you'd be getting the same quantity of action if you were stranded in the Sahara, eh?

Roadblock Two: Unfair comparisons (a.k.a. living in the past)

He (or she) was your dream come true, the apple of your eye. They were everything you could ever want or need in another human being. They represented your ideal of perfection in a person and in terms of a relationship, and they're sabotaging every relationship that will ever follow, because no one else can live up to your expectations. A breakup with the angel was inevitable from the start because perfection makes people uncomfortable.

This category sucks. You think that by acknowledging the faults in this relationship you're somehow dissing the best, happiest moments of your life, but you're not. Remind yourself why things didn't work out, and weren't meant to be (which is more difficult to do when you're the dumpee, as opposed to the dumper). Realize that there are indeed smarter, hotter, funnier, and more interesting people in the world than this model of perfection. Get out of the habit of using past loves as a measuring stick for all your potential mates.

Can't find a date? Bathing on a daily basis helps. Be glad that North American soap is relatively inexpensive because some countries don't see our sudsy friend unless it comes out of a Happy Meal Box as a treat.

Roadblock Three: Over-analyzing relationships

Jerry Seinfeld suffers from this disease. It doesn't matter that the girl smells nice, has perfect boobs, or a great job, there is always that something about her that is a little bit off that really bothers you, but doesn't seem to bother anyone else. If you suffer from this disease, prepare for an early death. Over-analyzing people and relationships is so yuppie! Maybe you over-analyze because you're in university, and feel the need to use your brain in every facet of your life, even places where it might be inappropriate. Or maybe you are shallow and don't really want to be in the relationship in the first place, so you're just dying for an easy way out of it. If you are a shallow human being, don't bother imposing your shallowness on someone undeserving – unless your boyfriend or girlfriend is equally shallow, in which case, you may have found your soul mate.

Roadblock Four: Chasing after stars you can't catch

For some diehard romantics, the ultimate object of affection will consistently remain out of their reach. But they chase after them anyway, considering it to be some sort of cathartic mini-adventure. Or so they think. Eventually, these people teeter on the edge of depression, chattering incessantly about their dire situation, desperately unable to express to the so-called love of their life how strongly they feel towards them.

Some people chase love that is unattainable because they are attracted to the romantic connotations behind it. For other people, it's all about ego – snatching away someone who is already taken denotes a sense of superiority over the jilted party. People who love pursuing the unavailable for the sake of an ego boost should evaluate their insccurities and romantic attitudes. (They should also wear a little paper sign on their back that says 'Loser!') But people who consistently and repeatedly chase the attached out of genuine love need to consider why they keep falling into such a pattern. Are they truly interested in the person, or is it simply the attractiveness of unavailability combined with old habit? Or will loving someone who is already taken mean that they will never truly reject you because they dislike your personality? So many questions, with too many answers.

Roadblock Five: Serial dating

People who suffer behind this roadblock haven't been single since they were fifteen years old. They bounce around from relationship to relationship without a month's rest in-between. Or perhaps they are involved in a long-term relationship where they often feel bored and restrained. These people enjoy the comfort that these loving relationships can provide them with, and are frightened that acknowledging their independence from their romantic partners will make them vulnerable.

The worst part about this hang-up is that people who have a fear of being single tend to lose themselves in their relationships. They may neglect their friends, their schoolwork, their jobs – and worst of all, their own personal needs – for the sake of their romantic interests.

These people need to slow down, and evaluate their fear of singlehood, which is not to say that they need to break up with their boyfriend or girlfriend. It just means they should assess the things they might have lost by constantly throwing themselves into relationships. They must recognize that a sense of independence could be a powerful asset, and realize that by losing touch with their goals and the outside world while wrapped up in a relationship, can be unhealthy. Unless their instinct absolutely tells them otherwise, they should never, ever forgo a career opportunity for the sake of a boyfriend or girlfriend.

One day your prince (or princess) will come.

Roadblock Six: Sexual jitters

Maybe you're a virgin and want to stay that way, or maybe you've had some bad sexual experiences in the past that you don't feel like explaining to a potential mate when you're forced to refuse some nookie. Or maybe every time you get into a relationship, things run smoothly until 'it' happens, and then the whole thing falls apart.

If negative sexual experiences from your past are thwarting your current attempts at sexual relationships, consider seeking professional help. Therapy often helps people sort through disabling sexual problems so that they can live normal lives again. Recognize that there are plenty of "normal" people in the world who choose not to have sex because it simply isn't a priority for them. Don't feel stupid about your values, and don't rush into relationships and start doing things that you are uncomfortable doing because the result will inevitably be the crappiest sex ever.

The most important thing you can do to prevent pain in this situation is to be honest with a potential sexual partner. Tell them exactly how far you think you're prepared to go with them physically. Warn them that sexual relations can make you uncomfortable and overly reflective. Then watch Ricki Lake or Jerry Springer and see how bad some other people have it by comparison, so you can stop feeling sorry for yourself.

Road block Seven: Obligation and commitment issues

Finding the right person is also a problem for those who seem to find love three or four times a year, but only for a few weeks at a time. Or maybe they manage to have a successive series of relationships that never go past the six month mark. They attribute their lack of success in the lasting love department to the wretched obligation they feel when a partner labels them a 'boyfriend' or 'girlfriend', or express the words "I love you". Often, these people get discouraged, and wonder if they are abnormal, or have an unnatural fear of commitment. They are usually just jaded by the ghosts of relationships past, and just like the people in the inexperienced category, simply haven't met the someone who can make them feel comfortable and stable.

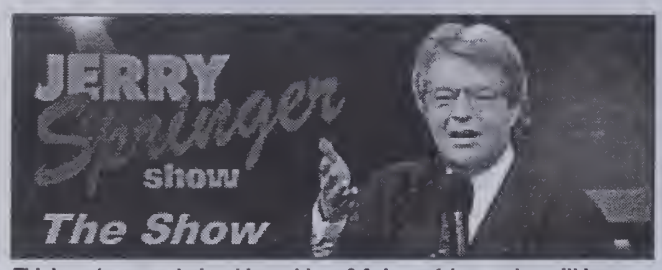
Stop reaching for the stars! Lower your standards!

The body quickly adjusts to the chemicals released during the initial 'thrill' of an exciting new love, so if a relationship doesn't unfold appropriately, the body's biological desire to stay within the confines of a given relationship are lessened. Likewise, the more a person continues to date similar 'types' of people, the more quickly his or her body will become used to the pleasant chemicals released at the start of a romance. Thus, when someone is constantly dating the same 'types' of people, the more bored and obligated they will feel towards their romantic partners. The solution is obvious: date different kinds of people that you might not normally consider because you will be more likely to sustain the positive feelings the body produces at the start of the relationship, increasing the possibility for a successful, lasting relationship. On the other hand, don't date people with whom you have nothing in common with because that could become boring as well. If the person you are dating is right for you, you should feel no sense of obligation, or fear of commitment.

Relationship roadblocks continued

Roadblock Eight: Unbearable dry spells

Sure, you had great relationships and great sex... during the Reagan administration. Well, maybe not that long ago, considering you hadn't hit puberty during his presidency, but it sure feels that long ago. The chicks loved you once, but now all you can do is wonder if they're avoiding you because you smell bad, or you're too fat, or something.



Think you've got relationship problems? A dose of Jerry a day will keep any psychotic episodes at bay.

Try investing in a bar of Dove – that guy in the commercial who blathers about how much the chicks love his silky softness sure seems to be having the romantic success that you can only dream of! If you're sick of being single, then get out and do something about it. Many dry spell sufferers are bitter because they never had to get off their ass to find romance: it always just seemed to conveniently fall into their laps. If you aren't comfortable meeting people in the traditional way (going to bars, meeting people at parties and gatherings through friends, stalking), try the personals, getting set up on blind dates, picking people up in class, dating friends. Branch out and meet people in unusual ways. Don't come across as desperate for loving, but acknowledge that you could meet the right person at any moment (which unfortunately means you must bathe and shave on a daily basis).

Roadblock Nine: Closing up

Maybe you hate your mate for voraciously eyeing other people. You might kick them obnoxiously under the table when you're out for dinner, but you never really express your resentment verbally. Why? You're just not a confrontational type of person. Either that, or you just don't care enough about the relationship to bother saying anything to fix it (or end it, for that matter).

Speaking out doesn't make you confrontational. It makes you an honest, proactive participant in the relationship. It shows the other person that you care about the relationship, and that you want to make it work so you can be happy. In the case that you don't care about the relationship and the person you're with because they're a supreme flake, probe deep within yourself, and question whether or not it might just be easier to be honest about the fact that you're no longer interested in the person. But if they're flaky enough that you can't be bothered telling them, then they probably deserve any unfair treatment you have to dish out. Have fun sitting back and watching the relationship die a slow and painful death!

-Jennifer Matotek

A Remembrance Day Memoir

By Laura Kissin

Right before I left my house, I frantically searched for a bright red poppy to put on my black coat. It was November 11th, 1999 – Remembrance Day. I wanted to wear a poppy for respect, so that when I walked the cold streets of Toronto, people would know that I was aware of today's importance, its symbolism, and that I remembered the millions of lives that were so unfairly taken away by war. As I walked 10 minutes to the subway, not a single older person wore a poppy.

Why get mad at them? I guess I figured that the war would have affected them more than me. Sure, my grandparents survived the Holocaust, but I never heard their stories first-hand. The other people on the streets may have lost their brothers, cousins, fathers, or even husbands. Is that not significant enough to acknowledge?

I first saw the captain in the subway. He might not have been a captain or even a soldier, but because of his posture, the look in his eyes, and the way his poppy was proudly displayed on his beret, I felt as if he was my commanding officer. There I was, standing with my walkman playing in my ears, wearing lipstick to make my tired face appealing, and feeling so low. I could feel his stare on me. It was as if he were saying, "how dare you wear that poppy when you really have no idea what it stands for?" I realized that I didn't. We've always been taught the horrifying details of the wars through books, lectures and films, but we never really understand something unless we've been through it and experienced it for ourselves. I glanced at the captain sporadically and saw him staring at his reflection, with his chest sticking out and his head lifted slightly higher than usual. Was he looking at the same reflection I saw? Was he seeing the mutilation of all his fellow men, praying that it would all end soon? Did he lose someone in the war? Did he lose himself?

"Next stop, Spadina Station" quickly brought me back to my surroundings. A woman sitting to my left was attempting to put eyeliner on while the train was still moving.

What are you doing? I thought to myself. Who cares whether you have a black line on your eyelid? What would you do if you had no hands to put your make-up on because they had just been blown off? What if you had no legs to walk to the office and show everyone how you looked because they had just been severed by a bomb? The three essays I had been worrying about 10 minutes ago suddenly seemed useless and I felt both ashamed and proud. Ashamed because I've done nothing compared to those men. What was I doing even standing close to a man I couldn't even reach? But then I felt proud and honoured to be on his train, in his car. I teach kids to swim. I swim competitively, pushing myself to the limits, disciplining and dedicating myself to reach a goal. I go to school and educate myself on the ways of the world so that eventually, as those brave men did, I too will be able to bring some of myself to this world. I left the train with a sudden feeling of courage and motivation. Did the captain know what he had just done to me? Had he done the same to thousands of others?

As I walked across the U of T campus, I passed a lone man dressed in a kilt and playing the bagpipes. In this huge field, he stood by himself playing the tune of memories to remind us all to remember. It was then I reached th end of the field, sat down, and broke down in tears.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Blackwood features a Y2K fantasy work

On the Gardiner Expressway just past Spadina, there looms a gigantic television screen, a video billboard showing clips from upcoming episodes of popular TV shows. In our living rooms, classrooms, bars, and shopping malls, we are surrounded by screens, inundating us with bright and rapid images. The artist who uses this new video technology has the luck of being relevant to our time, grabbing our attention with a medium that is now quite commonplace.

FINE/ART/REVIEW

BY CATHERINE BAIRD

David Hoffos' *Catastrophe,* now showing at the Blackwood Gallery, has made a giant leap in the presentation of video art from the gallery's last show, *Noisemaker[s].* The viewer enters the gallery by pulling back a black curtain – this creates an initial sense of excitement, like sneaking backstage in a performance. The gallery is dark, but immediately a spotlight is triggered by the movement of the viewer toward the closest part of the work. Three television sets are displayed, waist high in specific relation to a ceiling-high structure that contains a toy-like model of a city. The detail of this destroyed cityscape model immediately draws the viewer in closer to peer through a window that reveals a scene that is perceptually skewed. By using mirrors around the model, Hoffos not only makes this urban model appear much larger than it really is, but also makes it appear more alive – a lake in the far corner seems to be moving, and lights in the foreground flicker like a fire.

David Hoffos wanted to experiment with video (as opposed to film) art with his piece, *Catastrophe,* now showing at the Blackwood Gallery.

It only takes a few seconds to see people moving within this model. Constructed simply with household television sets and mirrors, there are three images projected into the model – a group of people sitting around a fire, and the viewer, who is taped by the gallery's security camera and projected into the model at about one-hundreth the size of a human body.

While I was caught up in the clever technical feats of this part of the work, I noticed there were three gallery-goers in the corner who were watching the huge nine-foot high video projection. As I walked toward these people, I realized that they were not people at all, but actually video projections onto a plywood cutout, which Hoffos created so convincingly. It is immediately apparent that Hoffos intended the viewer to believe these projections were real people, and their role as spectators is one that the viewer identifies with.

The large video projections that these spectators are watching are not immediately clear. However, the crashing and burning of vehicles becomes visible after inspection, and a sense of disaster is imminent. The size of the screen fills the room, and the blue light gives the space a ghostly quality, although the images of destruction are obviously artificial. Hoffos' use of the models and simple special effects intentionally contrasts with the seemingly real "spectacle of disasters on the evening news or in Hollywood films' " but nevertheless involves the viewer in ways that are relatively insightful and clever.

As a spectator, you become part of this work physically and conceptually. The hype surrounding Y2K's potential catastrophic consequences inspires the work, which creates a fantastical environment for viewers to consider their roles in the coming millennium. Will you be a victim, a spectator sitting by the fire, or a worker trying to rebuild the city? Will you fend for yourself only, or work with and help other people? Much like California based video artist Bill Viola, Hoffos uses the gallery to create a dark, eerie, and magical world where the white walls disappear and the video projections surround the viewer. As the wires, cameras, and projectors melt away into the darkness, the cleverness of the installation successfully combats the banality of the television screen. When this is combined with pervasive Y2K crisis, Hoffos creates an intriguing and conceptually unburdened work of truly contemporary art.

David Hoffos *"Catastrophe"* runs from November 12 to December 10, 1999, at the Blackwood Gallery, located in the Kaneff Centre.

The gallery is open Sunday to Friday from 1-5 p.m., and on Thursday's from 1-9 p.m.

Marcy Playground drummer does it for love of music

BY ADAM GILES

When a stereotypical rock band releases an album or goes on tour, they do nothing but party and revel in their fame and money, while the music takes a back seat. But **Marcy Playground** is not a stereotypical rock band and they're not in the music business for the stereotypical type of success – record sales and popularity.

Drummer Dan Rieser says that he is in it for much more important reasons. "I'm in music for really selfish reasons. Somehow, it's really fulfilling and meaningful," says Rieser. "That's sort of the feeling that I crave and that I'm always striving for when I'm involved in music. So it's a very selfish thing for me, it doesn't have to do with record sales. But it certainly is a really cool thing when people do come up to you and tell you that they like your stuff, or they're touched by it, or they think it's significant somehow. That's definitely cool because you feel like you're on the right track."

Rieser says he considered himself successful long before **Marcy Playground** made it big. He enjoys when people appreciate his music, but doesn't think money and popularity are requirements of success. "Dylan (**Marcy Playground**'s bassist) and I go way back, like 10, 12 years. We went to music school together and played a lot of jazz and improvised music and experimental music together. When we were completely broke, and paying to do gigs, or jamming in my basement apartment, I considered that successful somehow because we were getting by and we were doing exactly what we wanted to do. That's exactly where we wanted to be at the time. The three of us have considered ourselves successful for quite a while. Selling records and doing these types of things (interviews) is cool. It's kind of flattering that people dig your music that much for sure. That's the best part about the business."

> "I personally find talking to the media all the time repetitive and intrusive. There's no way that I could handle any sort of celebrity status."

Although Rieser invites people to appreciate his music, he admits that other parts of the industry become a hassle. "Everything else besides playing music can be a little tedious, like sometimes doing interviews, I mean this is pretty cool, you know, this seems like we're just having a conversation. But sometimes you find yourself with a DJ at a station and he's all like, 'Hey, you like Sex and Candy? (the band's first single)' And you're just like 'Oh man.' And then it just becomes a show and you feel like you have to react on that level. It can be a drag. Sometimes that shit can get to me," he says.

"I personally find talking to the media all the time repetitive and intrusive. There's no way that I could handle any sort of celebrity status. No way. That turns me off a little bit. I've always been a private person and uninterested in embracing that," he adds. "There were actually a couple of things that I was asked to do that didn't pertain to music per se. Like, some talk show or something like that and they wanted pseudo-celebrities and I declined because I don't want to embrace that kind of status that I think you would have by accepting to do it. You know like, 'Okay I'm in a band. Suddenly I am somebody greater than you, so I am going to be on this talk show and because I have celebrity status, I have something to say that is more important to you. That's why I'm here.' And I just don't feel that way. But if it had something to do with music, I love to talk about music."

Dan Rieser, John Wozniak, and Dylan Keefe, of Marcy Playground take a moment out of their celebrity lifestyles to sit in the grass.

Despite the excitement of selling more records and getting more radio play, Rieser says that **Marcy Playground** had to deal with the intrusive media more regularly as well as other mundane music industry hassles. He says that this is one thing for young musicians to be aware of when considering music as a career. "There are a lot of distractions out there, especially when you start getting more and more involved in the music and record industry. And I think that these distractions make you forget why you got into music in the first place. It can be a fucking drag. You start to hate it, you start not having fun, and when it comes to that, you should just get out and do something else, because that's when it becomes a job. There are a lot easier jobs out there, easier ways to make money, so just do it for fun."

"I don't think there is a whole lot going on outside of music that is really that relevant or really interesting. We're all pretty normal folks that just like to play music. I play basketball, I hang out with my girlfriend, I like to just 'hang.' I'm trying to teach myself how to play guitar. I still like go record shopping as much as I possibly can. I like to cook (laughs)."

Rieser recalls the hazy period when the band's first album got really popular. "It was all such a blur because when the record started to take off in terms of radio play and record sales, we were on the road constantly," he says. "So we

☞ *Rieser cont'd on page 11*

American Beauty director hits Toronto again with *Oliver!*

You've seen *American Beauty*. You've seen *Cabaret*, the musical. Now, Toronto, braces for stage and film director Sam Mendes' third blockbuster to hit in three months.

THEATRE/REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

The musical revival of *Oliver!*, on stage now at the Princess of Wales Theatre, is another example of Mendes' finely tuned skill of directing performers.

The popular Charles Dickens story shows how young Oliver Twist, an orphan, affects those around him. Set in London in the 1830s, the production starts off with the number "Food Glorious Food," sung by the large ensemble of children. This talented group starts *Oliver!* off on an energetic, dizzying tone. With the complex choreography and intimate, moody set design, there's almost too many elements on stage. At times this hurts the show, but it certainly eliminates any boredom in the audience.

The audience then follows Oliver into the streets of London, as he gets kicked out of the orphanage and ends up at with an undertaker. "That's your funeral" is not a very engaging number, but serves as a good transition as Oliver runs away and falls into the arms of a group of pickpockets.

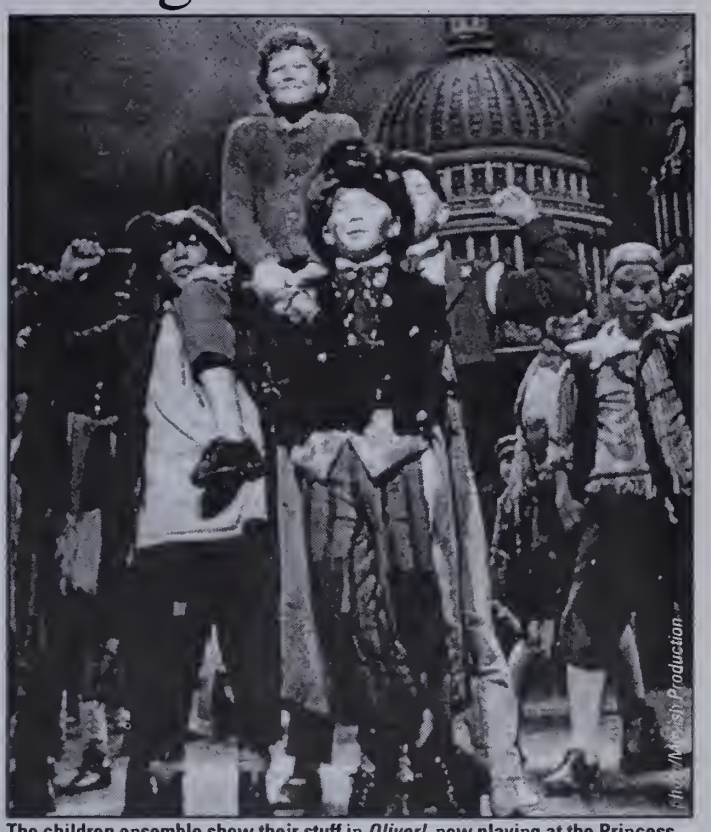
This is where the audience is introduced to Fagin (top-billed British comedian Russ Abbot), who leads the children into their underground layer, and answers to the mysterious Bill Sykes (Steven Hartley).

The production's emotional appeal is lacking and the story is fractured, but the energy more than makes up for this. The children's ensemble, the two major town-square numbers, and even Fagin's incredibly swift rambling monologue, makes the show feel as if it were perfectly polished, but could also fall apart at anytime because of its complexity.

Russ Abbot, deserving of his prestige, effectively carries the show through with his concentration and seemingly improvised performance. "Reviewing the Situation," where Fagin contemplates leaving his life of poverty with his stolen treasures, is the show's highpoint.

The set design and lighting, by Anthony Ward and David Hersey, truly creates a dark, grim mid-19 century London, and I often found myself saying "How did they do that?"

That's the allure of this show. It plays off of the nostalgia of the original *Oliver!* musical ("Consider Yourself," and "Food Glorious Food," will always be great numbers), and off of spectacle, by placing more on stage than you can handle. For a lasting experience, this doesn't hold very well. But for the time you watch *Oliver!*, you don't want to be anywhere else.



The children ensemble show their stuff in *Oliver!*, now playing at the Princess of Wales Theatre.

Rieser sheds pretentions

continued from page 10

weren't ever in front of the TV to see the video, you were never sitting in front of your stereo at home, so you never really heard it on the radio. We just started to see more and more people come out to our shows. And people requesting songs off the record, people requesting songs that they heard at previous shows that hadn't been recorded."

With this commendable attitude toward their profession and after their hugely successful debut album, **Marcy Playground** released their second record, called "Shapeshifter." The new album retains **Marcy Playground**'s laid-back rhythms and John Wozniak's soft vocals. Rieser says that the songwriting process varies because sometimes songs can take months to record and sometimes they can be recorded after one run-through. And although Wozniak writes all of the songs, Rieser says the process is still a group effort because Wozniak isn't a dictator. "Wave Motion Gun" is a song off the new record that we really worked hard on and ripped apart and stretched and twisted and the final outcome was great," says Rieser.

Rieser says **Marcy Playground** is unique because they don't try to be something that they're not. He says that a lot of new bands sound the same and **Marcy Playground**'s songs feel more honest and real. "It's really rare that somebody as a pop artist does something really totally fresh and totally new. But I think we're different from other bands that are out there today in that John is a really unique writer, lyrically," says Rieser.

The songs are always very real, whereas a lot of stuff I hear today sounds maybe more fabricated or like they're trying to do something, trying to sound heavy, or trying to be sexy, but it's just not a real feeling. I think that kind of sets us apart."

He says that classic artists like Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, and Bob Dylan, are always sources of inspiration when new music gets boring, because of their honesty and originality. "That's the shit that's always going to be great, and always meaningful," says Rieser. "It's never gonna lose its impact. Zeppelin, and Hendrix, and Dylan seemed very honest about what they were doing. It didn't feel fabricated, it didn't feel constructed, it just felt very real and I think that's something that the three of us tap into."

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SC

Pet shop Boys should have stayed in the Eighties

CD/REVIEWS

Magic
Thuggin
(EMI)

With its pumping vibrations and catchy lyrics, songs from *Thuggin* are worth playing on the radio. "Thank You Lord for my Life," featuring **Mia X**, is an impressive and meaningful track that has sentimental value.

"Puff Puff" is definitely entertaining and "Freaky," featuring **Ms. Peaches,** will get your attention. Not only are the backup rappers put to good use, but the music compliments the words. Although the profanity is a little overused, it is bearable.

Thuggin is a commendable hard core rap album, even though it isn't Grammy Award material.

- Amy Rayan

MAC
World War III
(EMI)

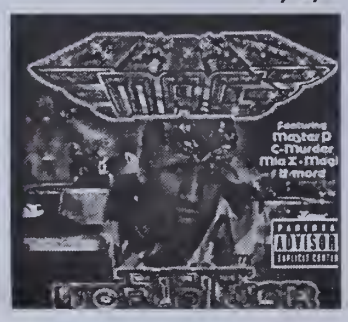
World War III is a mediocre album. Worth more than two cents, but less than five, this album has its high and low points. The introduction starts off with a funny skit from **MAC,** and the first song, "War Party," has a pumping tune that will set feet a-tapping.

But despite featuring major rap artists such as **Master P, C-Murder, Mia X, Magic**, and more, this album could have been much better. It seems as if too much time was spent on the CD cover and too little time on the music. All the songs have irrelevant and random messages and no intellectual meaning whatsoever. All it is good for is showing off a good bass system in a car.

Track 17, with **MAC** featuring **Ms. Peaches,** is one of the best on the CD, and that's not saying very much. Her sultry voice mixed in with his rough deep vocals has a great effect, and the lyrics are entertaining. But aside from that, the CD is not impressive.

To sum it up, if I had to kiss it or diss it, I would diss it.

- Amy Rayan



O.G.C.
The M-Pire Shrikez Back
(EMI)

Filled with vulgar nonsense, *The M-Pire Shrikez Back* **(Ed's Note: how dare they!)** proves that the M-PIRE needs to collapse. Not only are the lyrics completely appalling, but each song has the same beats with different words. It is amazing that anyone would even pay to hear this explicit language put into a tune.

The skit on track two is an infantile attempt to be funny, and only proves to be a prolonged effort on **Joe Clair**'s part.

The first track, "Shoot to Kill," has an "oh-so positive message" to young kids out there: it promotes violence and guns. Throughout the whole song it asks the same question over and over with "fuck" carefully placed within a sentence. "What's my fuckin' name...Big Will...Shoot to Kill." Not only is that the chorus, but it turns out to be the whole song.

Finally, it all ends with a boot camp song that's not much different from the other 16 tracks.

Hardcore rappers will find this CD somewhat second class, but I think that this belongs in a class of it's own. I call it the trash class. By the end of this CD, listeners will need more than a wall to bang their heads on, they'll need a bottle of Tylenol with codeine.

- Amy Rayan

Dave Koz
The Dance
(EMI)

Most people would have trouble naming a modern saxophone player. Some would name the obvious (and most well-known) saxophone player of our time, Kenny G. There's also Alto Reed from Bob Seger's Silver Bullet Band, and if you're familiar with Billy Joel's back catalogue, there's Jim Horn.

But in recent years, instrumental saxophone music has been thrown on the backburner, relegated to elevator and shopping mall music. Then, of course, there's the music of **Dave Koz.** His debut CD, *The Dance*, arrived this past September, and many have passed it by thinking he's a Kenny G clone. Think again. **Koz** writes his own instrumental pieces and employs the talents of artists like Luther Vandross, Montell Jordan and Burt Bacharach. You can't escape the soothing sax vibes when the leadoff track "Together Again" fills your speakers and carries you right through to the impressive final cut, "I'll Be There."

Everything in the middle is up to par as well. "Careless Whisper," an old WHAM! hit, is redone with style and "Cuban Hideaway" mixes Latin flavours with Koz's sultry sax. **Koz** uses a full backing band to further complement his horn riffs, and the drum machines prevalent throughout the disc give it a bopping, disco feel. But this album doesn't sound dated. On the contrary, **Koz** seems to one-up Kenny G in each of his cuts, making **Koz** the next candidate to bring instrumental saxophone music into the new millennium. Hopefully in the future we'll be hearing him on a radio rather than an elevator.

– Mike Faye

Pet Shop Boys
NightLife
(EMI)

"This is neither old or new, it's always, forever," sings Neil Tennant in "Happiness is an Option." This line sums up the whole album. It's the **Pet Shop Boys.** Fans of this eighties synth-pop band know what it sounds like.

The first time I listened to this CD, I felt a sense of deja vu, until the fourth song, when I just felt embarrassed for them. The CD starts with a "diva" singing back-up and a Coolioesque beat and keyboard line courtesy of Chris Lowe. Then the lead vocals come in, talking somewhat rhythmically. Could this be an attempt at rapping? Whatever it is, it makes me cringe. Thankfully, the lyrics are good and positive.

There are a few good songs. One, "In Denial," is exceptional. A duet with Kylie Minogue, this song tells the story of a father and daughter experiencing emotional problems. The two of them are struggling with life. She's lonely and trying to help her father recover from his self-doubt and insecurities. He's sad and feeling overwhelmed by his career and the lifestyle that he has pursued. The two look for approval from each other.

NightLife doesn't compare well to their 1986 debut *Please*, or even the more recent *Very*. Even though this isn't the **Pet Shop Boys** best effort, it does deserve a listen.

- Shannon Goodwin

Various Artists
The Thomas Crown Affair
(Universal Music)

Watching the remake of *The Thomas Crown Affair*, I noticed something strange. The music was a lot more prominent than usual for a crime-drama. Director John McTiernan's decision to make the music an integral part of this art-caper film is one of the film's strengths.

The film begins with **Bill Conti**'s score, "Black and White X 5," a piano piece very similar to Dave Grusin's score for *The Firm*. This sets up a light tone for the film. We know that *The Thomas Crown Affair* is going to be fun with the launch of this piece. There won't be any brutal murders, any attempts at philosophical debate, or any other type of seriousness.

This notion is confirmed by the second score track, "Never Change." Another light, playful piece, **Conti**'s music, particularly the piano pieces, act as a theme for Thomas Crown himself, a suave, controlling, sneaky, and confident figure.

Many of Conti's other non-piano tracks simply fade to background noise, but the CD picks up again with "Glider Pt.1" and "Glider Pt.2."

There are a few "cocktail party" pieces that you could play when you throw your millionaire's bash, but those are forgettable.

The other highlights are **Sting**'s contribution, "Windmills of your mind," and **Nina Simone**'s "Sinnerman." **Sting**, who made a similar contribution to John William's *Sabrina* score, sings this 1968 light jazz piece like his other hit, "Fields of Gold."

Nina Simone's "Sinnerman," the stand-out track of the CD – both in volume, length, and pace – is a 10-minute marathon with steady piano in the background, and fast percussion following it. There's a lengthy musical interlude, with guitar and clapping, that really sets a frantic pace for the film in the heist scene at the beginning.

If you haven't seen *The Thomas Crown Affair*, it's worth watching. However, this soundtrack stands on its own as a smooth jazz CD.

- Richie Mehta

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SPORTS

Back to the old constitution

BY ADAM GILES

After months without a student athletic council, student leaders and university representatives decided to elect a new athletic council under the old rules, and let the new council make amendments to the original constitution.

ECARA should have had a new constitution ratified before the start of the school year, but several problems prevented that. The Terms of Reference that the Erindale College Council passed for the department of athletics conflicted with an amended constitution. Les McCormick, Dean of Student Affairs, was absent for approximately a month, which stalled the process and left misunderstandings everywhere. And after all of that, the amended constitution was finally disregarded altogether.

Abid Chaudry, ECARA's former Vice-President of Finance, amended ECARA's constitution alongside former ECSU President, Mike Giordano, former ECARA member Carol Seymour, and Pavi Khundal, a student-at-large, to facilitate the election process. Chaudry, who graduated from UTM in the spring, is one of only a few members from last year's council to help put a new council in place. Since members of last year's council graduated, there were not enough remaining members to officially amend the constitution.

Chaudry and McCormick ironed out conflicts between Chaudry's amended constitution and the Terms of Reference. "We came to a compromise about those conflicts, and we got what we wanted, a student majority," said Chaudry. "That's why I was confused about the purpose of Thursday's meeting. But now, as soon as we hire a CRO (Chief Returning Officer), I will call for elections."

ECSU President, Laurie Schirripa, who was a part of the transition team, said she was happy with the outcome of the meeting. "I always thought ECARA needed to have elections," she said. "ECARA should have jurisdiction over their constitution. I was very uncomfortable being on that committee and I'm glad it worked out the way it did."

The whole problem started last year, when the DAR report recommended a split between ECARA and the department of athletics. The Terms of Reference were passed to act as a guideline for the department of athletics. ECARA, therefore, needed a constitution that would mirror the Terms of Reference. However, ECARA's constitution wasn't amended because most of last year's council graduated, leaving less than the required 70 per cent of members to make amendments. As a result, elections were not held.

UTM hosts OUA lacrosse

On November 6 and 7, UTM's North Field hosted the OUA women's lacrosse finals. After losing 12-10 to Guelph, U of T's varsity team won the bronze medal.

UTM Rowing wraps up another season

BY ADAM GILES

As the cool autumn air sweeps over southern Ontario, the UTM rowing programme packs up the oars for another year. After winning two bronze medals and one silver at the OUA Championships and doing well at the Novice Championships and the Canadian University Championships, UTM rowers are now ready for an off-season of vigorous training.

Andrew Bellerby, head coach of UTM Rowing, thinks this year was a success for the programme. "Our rowers worked really hard and it paid off," he said. "This year was most definitely a success for UTM because we developed a lot of talented rowers, both men and women, that are coming up through the novice programme."

After the Brock Invitational Regatta on October 9, UTM pooled its rowers with St. George rowers to put the best possible U of T crews on the water, an advantage that no other Ontario university has. At the OUA Championships, three UTM rowers won medals for U of T. Yasin Ozturk won a bronze in the heavyweight men's eight, Christina Pink won a bronze in the heavyweight women's eight, and Denis Caza won a silver in the lightweight men's single.

"Yasin didn't get a lot of attention, but he contributed so much to the programme," said Bellerby. "He won the bronze and he was dealing with back injuries. I think that really says something about his determination."

Bellerby said that Caza, who won his silver medal in a single, has a lot of potential. "Denis was our surprise of the regatta. It looked like he was set for a bronze, but he was able to pull out a silver," said Bellerby. "He's got loads of potential and he's put in a lot of miles. He just turned 19 and if he wants to move on to the National team, I believe he can."

In addition to the achievements of the three medal winners, Bellerby is proud of the effort and commitment of UTM's whole crew. "We really produced some competitive crews this year," said Bellerby. "We finished sixth out of six crews in the lightweight women's four, but I believe we could have had the bronze. This was a very competitive field: there were only a few boat lengths between first and sixth place. We put forward our best effort on the last day of the season and that's all that counts."

Bellerby added that the men's and women's crews also made improvements at the Novice Championships. "The men finished with their best race of the season. They beat Queens. That's the first time they beat another crew. The women finished third in their heat, losing to the eventual gold and silver winners, McGill and Trent. They drew the toughest heat."

But even though the season is over, UTM's rowers aren't off the hook. "Rowing is a year-round sport," said Bellerby. "It doesn't stop here. It's time for novices to decide if they want to keep it up. Now we start dry-land training."

The team will likely go rock climbing and skiing in addition to working out at UTM's weightlifting facility and on the rowing machines in the UTM Boathouse to maintain their strength and flexibility. "We try to keep it fun and interesting," said Bellerby.

From 12 noon on November 25 until 12 noon on November 26, UTM Rowing will hold its third Annual UTM 24-hour Erg-A-Thon to raise money for the programme. "This is our only fundraising event for the year," said Bellerby. "We have to support rowing ourselves because there is not a lot of financial support for the programme."

The Erg-A-Thon is open to anyone who wants to participate. The goal is to keep eight rowing machines running for 24 hours and to raise $10,000.

Photos courtesy Andrew Bellerby

UTM rowers take to the water at the Novice and OUA Championships.

Coed softball stats

TOP FEMALES	HITS	OBA
ERIN LAPORTE	6	.750
NADIA FINLEY	5	.556
LAURIE SCHRIPPA	5	.444

LEAGUE LEADERS	HITS	OBA
KURT TIETZ	8	.800
ERIN LAPORTE	6	.750
CYRUS IRANI	5	.750
PHIL CHITTY	8	.727
STEVE GHOSE	7	.700
ZAIN FANCY	8	.667
ZUHAIR FANCY*	6	.667
AMAN MUNDI	6	.667
RICHIE MEHTA	5	.667

*Alumni (disregard)

Coed softball season wraps up: Playas take first place, barely

Playas tie Paper with late comeback

BY ZAIN FANCY

Needing a win, a tie, or a loss by less than 12 runs to clinch first place, the Playas tied the Paper 8-8 last week in a dramatic comeback to gain a berth in the finals. The Paper will take on the Bomb Squad for the wild-card.

The Playas started off by scoring one run in the first inning. The Paper responded right away with three runs, including a two-run shot from Cyrus Irani, a shot that sent his teammates into a frenzy and sounded various alarms after the ball hit several cars upon leaving the ballpark. In the third inning, Mike Arage tied up the game with a two-run shot, but that comeback was short lived as the Paper's Adam Giles cashed in Cyrus Irani on a sac fly. The Paper then exploded for four runs in the inning, making the score 8-3 going into the last inning.

Down by five with two outs left, the desperate Playas kicked their high-octane offence into gear. Four consecutive hits made the score 8-6, and a groundout made the score 8-7 with two outs. With the pressure on, Ravi Uppal smacked the ball to the fence for a triple. The pressure was now on Zuhair Fancy, who had to reach base safely or the game would be over because an automatic out was on deck. Fancy promptly hit a single up the middle, to tie the game. The Paper could not score any runs in the bottom half of the inning, so the game ended in a tie. "What can I say, we fucked up," said the Paper's Richie Mehta. "But it was a good game. The best we've ever played."

Game stars for the Playas were Mike Arage (3-3, four RBIs, and one homerun), and Zain Fancy (3-3, three runs). For the paper, Wilson had a career game, going 4-4 with two runs scored, while Cyrus Irani went 2-3 with a homerun and three RBI's.

COED SOFTBALL STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	TP
PLAYAS	2	1	1	9
BOMB SQUAD	2	2	0	7
THE PAPER	1	2	1	7

Playas explode on Bomb Squad

BY ZAIN FANCY

In the battle for first place in coed softball, the Playas took on the Bomb Squad. These teams met the previous week, with the Bomb Squad upsetting the Playas 11-10, due to a Playas base running error. This game was different as the Playas took control from the start, cruising to a 12-4 victory.

The Bomb Squad was up 3-2 after one inning, courtesy of a Phil Chitty homer. The Bomb Squad would go on to score only one run after that. In the second inning, Playas' Ravi Uppal hit his first ever homerun, a two-run shot to make the score 4-3. A few batters later, and with Steve Ghose on base, Zain Fancy smacked a triple to cash in what would prove to be the game winner. The Playas then shut the door on the Bomb Squad with some terrific defence, and hit one more homer, courtesy of Mike Arage.

Game stars for the Playas were Steve Ghose (4-4, three runs), Zain Fancy (3-4, three runs three RBIs, and an over the shoulder, sliding barehanded catch, which finally got his teammates off his back for his slip heard round the world last game), and Mike Arage (3-4, HR, two RBIs). The Bomb Squad's Kurt Tietz went 3-3 with two RBIs.

Laurie Schirripa, of the tied-for-last-place Bomb Squad, said it was the team's own fault for losing. "We weren't aggressive enough when we had people on base," she said.

Women's interfaculty news

UTM women (6-0) take down Innis

BY JACK KRIST

The women's division one basketball team defeated a strong Innis team 42-21 on Thursday, November 11 to improve their league record to 6-0. Stephanie Kishimoto led UTM with 14 points, Sylvia Jazbec and Rita Lenhardt added eight points each and Robin Tucker had. The win secures UTM's spot in the division one semi-final where they will likely play PT/OT who finished second in the league's other pool with a 5-1 record. PT/OT will be tough, as they defeated MBA 84-14, and only lost to UTM's arch rival Scarborough, who are also a perfect 6-0. Coaches Jack Krist and Steve Manchur hope that the team can get past PT/OT to play Scarborough in the final. The Scarborough team ran up the score on the UTM women's B team this year, defeating them 46-2.

The UTM women's division one team will have to do a better job of rebounding than they did against Innis, when they face Lake Erie College in Ohio on Saturday night in the Gund Arena. The Lake Erie game will be a huge test for this young team, which has only two senior players and nine players who are on the team for their first year. Hopefully UTM can build on this weekend and bond on this road trip. If we gel as a team, we will look to end a 17-year drought that has kept UTM women's basketball off the interfaculty championship trophy since 1982-83.

Interesting year for field hockey

KHUSH AMARIA

The UTM coed field hockey team has had an interesting year so far. The season is almost over, and yet the team has only played two games. The other four games have all been default wins. As anxious as the team is to play, we won't let this disappointment get us down. With the playoffs coming up in the next few weeks, the team hopes to win their third championship.

This year's team consists of 13 players, five of them being rookies. Our top scorers include Keira Stockdale, Alison Fernandes and Carmen Ali. Ceri Jones provided the only goal in our last game. Unfortunately, the game was lost to Pharmacy/VIC, but not without a battle. We had some great saves from Shirley Chin, the replacement for our injured goalie Debbie Mediros. The team wishes Debbie a speedy recovery and hopes to have her back for the upcoming playoffs.

UTM stacked with superior soccer talent

BY DAVE THOMAS

The UTM women's interfaculty soccer team has disposed of their opponents rather easily this season. UTM soccer is stacked with athletes, and the team is in dire need of a challenge because the opposition has not been able to match their talent. The team has yet to allow even a shot against, thanks to defensive specialists Shier and Healy. The midfield has controlled and distributed the ball effectively, while Lyons, Lisboa, Caputo, and Kishimoto have been putting balls in the back of the net. The Eagles are led by veterans Masut, Fernandes, Nguyen, and have groomed newcomers for future years. With the championship on the horizon, UTM is looking at a dynasty in the making.

Taking it on the chin: touch football quarterfinals

BY JON LEE

Referees get no glory, and they feel a lot of pain. But they can have fun watching a good game of football.

On Sunday November 7, the UTM women's touch football team took on the Trinity Saints. This was my first refereeing job on campus this year and I came out in one piece, barely. I heard a lot of pleas to call for blocking, but that's kind of hard when all you see is a clump of girls all in the middle of the field (if you're thinking some weird things now, just forget about it and move on). I did cause some self-inflicted pain when I called blocking on the steamboat counter. I didn't know that the receivers had to get out of the way. I won't make that mistake twice, considering one of them wanted to take my head off. This was a close game in the first half, with UTM leading 6-0. Then UTM kicked into high gear. By the end of the game, a punt return and a few touchdowns later, it was a 32-0 blowout. This is why UTM is first this year. Trinity couldn't get anything going. If UTM wins on November 13, they will go to the finals Saturday, November 20 at 4:30 p. m. at Varsity Stadium. Drop by the bulletin board near the Centre for Physical Education office in the South Building to check the scores. If they win, come on out and cheer on the Eagles to victory in the final.

Argos Schmargos

photo/Avril Loreti

The Toronto Argonauts hog UTM's South Field as they prepare for their November 14 match-up against the Hamilton Tigercats. Get lost! Our flag football players prefer the South Field.

Men's basketball notes

BY BRUCE WORTHINGTON

Chaos 32, Revolution 31

This was an ugly affair, with Chaos eventually coming out on top. The usually explosive Albert Bekoe could only muster four points and his heroic counterpart Emeka Ugwu, with all his athletic prowess, only filled the hoop twice. Revolution's top scorer Kevin Ali played a solid game with nine points, but didn't get much help from his teammates. Hopefully, next week both teams will bring their "A" games and not torture their fans.

EFSA 35, Earthquake 34

Waking up this morning, I checked to see if pigs were flying. Why? EFSA won a game. This was a hard fought battle, with end-to-end action for the whole 40 minutes. Mohammed Hashim came up big late in the game with some positive comments from the bench. These comments were critical for EFSA's success and Hashim will need to exhibit more of that enthusiastic support to help EFSA continue its winning ways.

Commissioner's note:

Game sheets for Bristol U versus Dietz and Sons mysteriously went missing on Thursday. Rumor has it that Bristol U won both games this week, but this has yet to be confirmed. The theft of the sheets can probably be traced to Mike Arage, who didn't want anyone to notice his significant drop in points per game this year. Finding these game sheets will facilitate the writing of summaries, if they haven't already been burned.

Men's flag football scores, game recaps

BMF 26, Snapping Turtles 20

Without Mike Baldassi, BMF had a slow start. However BMF's veterans, along with newcomer Simon Poon, picked it up to tie the game at 14 and eventually beat the Snapping Turtles 26-20. Poon scored a pair of touchdowns and a two-point conversion, while Eric Lucic and Matt Millar each ran in a touchdown. Baldassi is probable for the AFC playoffs, which BMF clinched with a perfect 4-0 record. With only three teams in the AFC, BMF's first-place finish gives them a bye to the finals. Jorge Albanez, Jay Diaz, and Rami Robia scored the Turtles' touchdowns, while Ali Nanazif converted two points.

- Eddy Bavington

Bristol U 27, Jabronies 20

The Jabronies came into this game looking to take second place from Bristol U, but Bristol U had other plans. Bristol U quarterback, Mike Arage, threw three touchdowns, while Ravi Uppal scored four, including one on an interception. The Jabronies never came back, losing 27-20. Gavin Hilson, Rob Menalo, and Dave MacIntosh scored the Jabronies' touchdowns.

In other flag football news, the Reapers defaulted for the second straight game, leaving them in third place in the NFC. The Reapers are only ahead of the Jabronies because they beat them head-to-head. In the AFC, it was Electric Mayhem's turn to take a week off, as they were scheduled to play the Free Agents (A), who defaulted out of the league.

- Jason Nicols

Flag football statistics

NFC QUARTERBACKS	TD's	TP
MIKE ARAGE	10	67
CIARAN GRAHAM	9	60
B. WORTHINGTON	8	52
NEVILLE SITARAM	6	41
AHMAD SALIHA	2	14

AFC QUARTERBACKS	TD's	TP
E. BAVINGTON	9	62
R. AUYEUNG	2	14
STEVE GETSZLER	1	8

ALL PURPOSE SCORING NFC	TD's	TP
RAVI UPPAL	7	42
KURT TIETZ	3	20
JAY NUNEZ	3	18
BRYAN FOO	2	14
ROJ KOPPAITHARA	2	14
GAVIN HILSON	2	14
HECTOR SLIHO	2	12
SCOTT BAKER	2	12
J.M. ERRA	2	12
DAVE THOMAS	2	12

AFC	TD's	TP
SIMON POON	4	26
MATT MILLAR	3	18
JORGE ALBANEZ	2	14
IMMY SOMANI	2	12

MEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL STANDINGS

NFC TEAM	W	L	PF	PA	PTS
BRISTOL U.	3	1	74	46	6
FIERCE	3	1	28	52	6
REAPERS	1	3	58	51	2
JABRONIES	1	3	68	79	2

AFC TEAM	W	L	T	PF	PA	PTS
BMF	4	0	0	62	26	8
E. MAYHEM	2	1	1	22	43	4
S. TURTLES	1	2	1	35	47	3

CLUBS CORNER

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(Stephen doesn't think so-let's discuss.)
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Saturday, November 20th
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7:30 pm location TBA
Call Karen@(905) 270-2038

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Club UCSA Social and Party: "Cultural FUSION"
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The Glass Lounge, 150 Pearl St.
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Men's intramural indoor soccer season almost done

BY KORY JAZBEC

Jabronies 14, KGB 5

This game seemed to be a tune up for Jabronies' big game on Thursday against Scott's Team. The Jabronies came out firing all cylinders in the second half, scoring 11 goals. Sam Gill and Andrew Nasato led the charge with five and four goals respectively. James Halbert of KGB replied with three goals of his own.

TYC 11, Azzurri 3

In the battle for third place in the standings the game seemed to be close and the first half ended with TYC leading 3-2. However, TYC exploded in the second half with eight goals that put the game out of reach for Azzurri. First-year student Rob Mandekic had a big game with six goals and Mohamed El-Rashidy had a three-goal game for TYC. Jason D'Souza scored a pair of goals for Azzurri.

RRR 4, Scott's Team 7

This game was a very tight battle. RRR surprised Scott's Team by coming out strong and pressing their opponents. RRR was only down 3-2 at the end of the half. The second half was much like the first and it was very close until the end, when Scott's Team scored two goals in the final two minutes to eliminate any chance of RRR stealing a win from them. Majid Hussain led Scott's Team with a three-goal effort while the leading scorer in the league, Nick Emini, scored all the goals for RRR.

Scott's Team 7, Jabronies 6

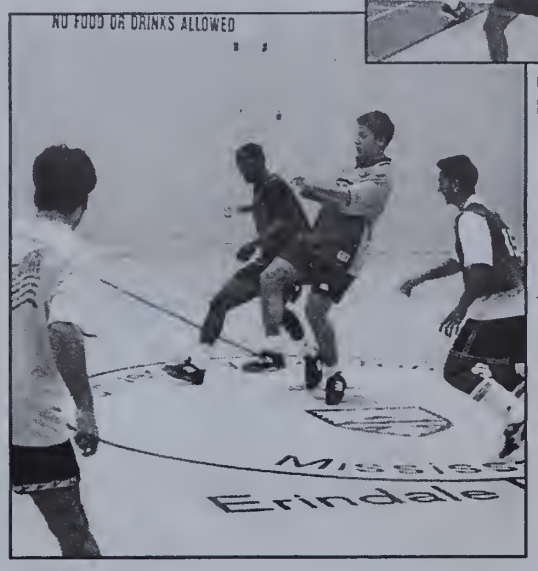
This was the all-important battle for first place, with the loser probably playing the defending champs TYC in the first round of the playoffs. Scott's Team, which led for most of the game had a 4-2 lead at halftime. Strong defense and some good goalkeeping from Thomas Wojcik kept the Jabronies' forwards in check. Scott's Team scored three unanswered goals in the second half and had a comfortable lead. Jabronies cued the comeback by scoring three goals, but they could not find the equalizer. They missed several opportunities, including a couple of penalty shots that could have saved the game for them. Scott Baker led Scott's Team with three goals while Norbert and Andrew Cooper had two apiece. For Jabronies, Ravi Uppal and Hamada Amer had three and two goals respectively. Jabronies will now probably play TYC in the first round of the playoffs.

RRR 15, Psycrocrickets 3

This was a blowout, with RRR scoring goals left and right. The League's leading scorer, Nick Emini had another big game, scoring seven goals and Belal Skeik netted three goals to help the cause. Anil Gobin, who is trying to move his name up the scoring leaders' list, could only manage one goal.

photos/Sijie Xu

On Thursday, Scott's Team and the Jabronies played in the battle of the undefeated teams. Scott's Team won 7-6.



MEN'S INDOOR SOCCER STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
SCOTT'S TEAM	6	0	0	51	20	18
JABRONIES	4	1	0	51	24	13
TYC	3	2	0	47	26	11
AZZURRI	2	3	0	12	37	9
RRR	2	3	0	39	25	8
PSYCHO	0	4	1	19	53	5
KGB	0	3	1	15	49	5

Indoor soccer leaders

PLAYER	GOALS
N. EMINI (RRR)	14
NORBERT (ST)	13
SAM GILL (JAB)	13
R. MANDEKIC (TYC)	12
M. EL-RASHIDY (TYC)	9
A. GOBIN (PSYCHO)	8
K. KASPISZEWSKI (ST)	8
N. MARKETIC (TYC)	8
DAVE THOMAS (JAB)	7
RAVI UPPAL (JAB)	7
STEVE GHOSE (JAB)	7
S. FREITAS (ST)	7
J. HALBERT (KGB)	7

– not including November 11 games.

Interfaculty scores

Women's

Nov. 7 – Touch Football quarterfinal
UTM 32, Trinity 0

Nov. 7 – Soccer quarterfinal
UTM wins default over Woodsworth.

Nov. 9 – Volleyball I quarterfinal
UTM wins default over Innis.

Nov. 10 – Volleyball II
UTM wins default over Law.

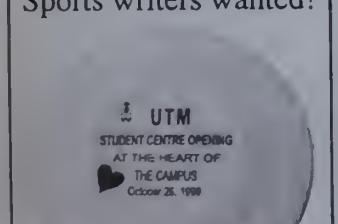
Men's

Nov. 9 – Basketball II
UTM wins default over MBA.

Nov 9 – Volleyball I
UTM 2, Victoria 1

INTERFACULTY PLAYER OF THE WEEK: **Ian Hazelwood**

Sports writers wanted!



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The gymnasium will be CLOSED for exams
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Mon-Fri 8:00am-10:00pm Sat-Sun 10:00am-5:00pm
All Facilities close: December 22, 1999 - January 2, 2000

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Apply at the Centre for Physical Education office
Deadline for applications is
- Wednesday, November 17th 1999 by 4:00pm

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for Men and Women

Men's Wed Nov 17 5:00 pm (Room 1104)
Women's Thurs Nov 18 5:00 pm (Room 1130)
Bring your own entry form, default bond and league fees
A team rep must attend in order for your team to be entered

UTM's Annual 24 hour Erg-A-Thon
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